

Tech censorship that we have seen time and again and we should not stand for this as Americans.

The American people deserve to hear all sides of political discussions to be able to form their own opinions on any given issue. Corporations should not have free rein in dishing out their woke agendas to censor content their paying customers consume. I will fight to get more answers on this as a member of the House Oversight and Accountability Committee.

DIRECTV and AT&T will be hearing from many of my colleagues and constituents that are on our side in this argument, as well as their customers from around the country to reverse this decision and prove to the American people that they are advocates of the First Amendment, not an obstacle for a fair and balanced political program.

ROLLING BACK PANDEMIC EMERGENCIES

(Mr. AUCHINCLOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of responsibly ending the COVID-19 emergencies and in opposition to showmanship that would unnecessarily disrupt American's access to healthcare.

President Biden has committed to end the COVID-19 public health and national emergency designations by May 11, choosing an orderly, predictable wind down over the disruptions and dislocations proposed by House Republicans. Their actions this week could immediately kick tens of millions off their health insurance, leaving nursing home residents without staff to care for them, and cut off telehealth services for people struggling with mental illness.

Governing requires planning and deliberation. Unfortunately, Republicans have put messaging over substance. We can and will keep schools open and make sure government officials are delivering for constituents while sustaining flexibilities and efficiencies from the pandemic.

Mr. Speaker, for that reason, I urge my colleagues to oppose these measures and support President Biden's responsible drawdown of emergency authorities.

BIDEN'S BORDER CRISIS

(Mr. MORAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, as Biden's border crisis continues to cost American taxpayers billions per year, I rise today to introduce my first bill, the Border Security Investment Act.

This legislation will target the millions of immigrants who entered our country illegally, use American resources, don't pay taxes, and then pro-

ceed to send money back to foreign countries.

More specifically, it would place a 37 percent user-based transaction fee on remittance transfers made through money service businesses where the remittance originates in the U.S. and is sent back to one of the top five nations of origin for illegal immigration.

Revenue collected is placed under two trusts; both for border security. In the first trust the funds will be used by the Federal Government specifically for salaries and wages for Customs and Border Protection, physical barriers, and detection technology only. The second trust is allocated to reimburse States for their expenditures for border security enforcement measures.

Any unspent money under this legislation from these two funds exceeding \$50 billion is allocated to the Treasury solely for the purpose of reducing national debt.

While there is still plenty of work to be done, this bill is a first step in securing our border, keeping our communities safe, and working toward a balanced budget.

PROTECT OUR WATER

(Ms. SCHOLTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I am on the House floor today to talk about an element that sustains us all—water.

My home State of Michigan is surrounded by four out of the five Great Lakes—our Nation's largest freshwater reserve. The Great Lakes region is home to 51 million jobs and has a GDP of \$6 trillion. It is an economic powerhouse.

Yet, despite the abundance of freshwater surrounding us, many of our constituents do not have access to reliable and safe drinking water. PFAS and lead contamination continue to be an issue for many West Michiganders. The Great Lakes are home to one of our Nation's most incredible landmarks but are under dire threat from climate change.

We must protect our freshwater supply nationally and internationally. The Great Lakes contain 90 percent of the United States' freshwater supply and 20 percent of the global supply. We have to work with urgency to protect this precious resource.

The importance of water nationwide cannot be understated. It is an environmental matter, an economic matter, and a matter of national security.

This week, I am launching my work on the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water and the Environment where I will work to protect this vital resource, and I invite my colleagues to join me.

ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IS THE ENGINE OF PROGRESS

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, America has always been a Nation of trailblazers. From the automobile to the iPhone, the entrepreneurial spirit of the American people is the engine of progress that moves our world forward toward a better tomorrow.

As we chart a course toward rebuilding the world's greatest economy, we must ensure that this engine has the fuel it needs to get us where we want to go.

That is why earlier today I introduced the Startup Act, alongside my colleague from California (Mr. DESAULNIER). This bipartisan bill equips entrepreneurs and future entrepreneurs with the training and resources they need to start a business, create jobs, and grow our economy.

Having built several small businesses from the ground up, I know just how difficult that process is. I wonder how many Americans never make that leap simply because they don't know where to start.

The Startup Act is about removing barriers to entrepreneurship and expanding access to programs and tools that will help countless people turn their version of the American Dream into a reality.

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THURSDAY LUNCHEON GROUP

(Mr. CASTRO of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Thursday Luncheon Group, which was founded in 1973 to elevate the voices of African Americans in U.S. foreign policy.

Since the early days of the State Department, patriotic African Americans have raised their hands to join our diplomatic service only to find their pathways too often narrowed by bigotry. In the face of this discrimination, early trailblazers like Ambassador Terence Todman, a six-time career ambassador and founding member of the Thursday Luncheon Group, successfully pushed the State Department to root out segregation and expand opportunities for all employees.

Today, the Thursday Luncheon Group plays an active role in promoting African-American representation at all levels of the Department.

As I have worked to increase opportunities for underrepresented groups in foreign policy, my efforts have been guided by the counsel of the Thursday Luncheon Group and other employee affinity groups.

Congratulations to the Thursday Luncheon Group on their golden anniversary. I look forward to working with TLG and similar groups to recruit and retain a diverse diplomatic corps that proudly promotes American values at home and around the world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARCY GOODYEAR

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Marcy Goodyear.

Marcy was born in 1971 in East Point, Georgia. She moved to Albany in 1974, where she attended Westover High School.

In 2009, after living in Albany for many years, Marcy found her way to Darien, Georgia, located in the First Congressional District of Georgia.

Marcy loved traveling and spending time with friends and family. She enjoyed working at Skippers' Fish Camp with her family as well as her time as a city councilwoman with the city of Darien.

Marcy's smile was infectious, and she never met a stranger. She will be dearly missed by all of those who knew her.

On behalf of myself and everyone in the First Congressional District, our thoughts and prayers are with Marcy's family and friends.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF SELMA POLICE OFFICER GONZALO CARRASCO, JR.

(Mr. COSTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, we are mourning today the loss of Officer Gonzalo Carrasco, Jr., who, sadly, was shot and killed in the line of duty yesterday protecting the citizens of Selma, California. Selma, California, is a wonderful community of about 30,000 people in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley.

Officer Carrasco was a son of farmworkers, a graduate of Reedley High School, and worked constantly to increase his opportunities to become a police officer. He also, sadly, was preparing to become a father.

He served with the Selma Police Department for 2 years and did all he could to protect the community.

His service, bravery, and sacrifice will never be forgotten. It is a sad day for the people of Selma.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to his family, the Selma Police Department, and the people in the valley.

May he rest in peace. God bless him. We owe him a debt of gratitude.

HONORING WAR HERO CHRISTOPHER MARIAN BALLABAN

(Mr. SANTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Mr. Christopher Marian Ballaban, a constituent, war hero, and Holocaust survivor in New York's Third Congressional District.

Last Saturday, on January 28, Mr. Ballaban reached his centennial, and I would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD this token of my appreciation for his long and heroic journey.

Christopher was born in Poland and joined the Polish resistance against the Soviets at the young age of 16. Throughout his entire life, he was held in multiple slave camps throughout Europe.

After escaping the final camp, Christopher eventually joined the British Army and fought against Nazis in Germany and other enemy forces.

Finally, in the early 1950s, he found his way home to the United States. I could not be more honored to have a man of such valor residing in the district that I represent.

Let this serve as a public declaration of respect and admiration for Mr. Ballaban and his amazing family. I would like to extend the happiest of birthdays to Christopher, and I hope that our paths cross soon.

CONDEMNING BLOCKADE OF LACHIN CORRIDOR

(Ms. SÁNCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the Azerbaijani Government's blockade of Lachin Corridor, the only road connecting Artsakh's Armenian population to the world. Today marks the 52nd day of the blockade.

My district is home to one of the first Armenian communities in southern California and was formed by survivors of the Armenian genocide. Now, in the face of Azerbaijan's aggression, many of my constituents fear a second genocide.

Last week, I spoke with a constituent who was stuck behind the blockade and who reported a dire situation: Over 100,000 Armenians have been denied access to food, fuel, and medicine, and the region has been left without heat or power this winter. If this continues, I fear a humanitarian catastrophe.

We must make it clear to Azerbaijan that imposing its will on the Armenian people by force is unacceptable. I call on the administration to ensure that aid reaches the people of Artsakh.

Today, my thoughts are with those suffering under these inhumane conditions, and I reaffirm my commitment to ensuring that Azerbaijan is held accountable for its aggression against the Armenian people.

SOCIALISM IS A FAILED IDEOLOGY

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, socialism has failed everywhere it has been tried and has caused millions of deaths over the last century.

In 1932 and 1933, Soviet leader Joseph Stalin engineered a man-made famine in Ukraine that killed more than 3 million people. In 1938, 1 million people were executed by the Soviet Union's secret police in a campaign of organized terror.

From 1960 to 1962, over 50 million people died in Communist China during Mao Zedong's Great Leap Forward. Again, from 1966 until 1976, over 3 million people were killed by Chairman Mao's Cultural Revolution.

In Cambodia, communist dictator Pol Pot killed 2 million people, 25 percent of his country's population.

Almost 2 million North Koreans have been killed by that country's communist government.

These are just a few of the examples of socialism leading to mass death and suffering for innocent people. These deaths are a feature, not a bug and not an anomaly.

Socialism never works, as its critics must be silenced by force. It might sound attractive going in, but people who have voted it in usually have to fight their way out of it.

Let's be on the side of victims of socialism, the tens of millions of them, and speak out and condemn it in all its forms.

BLACK HISTORY IS AMERICAN HISTORY

(Ms. CLARKE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this day, the first day of Black History Month, unfortunately during a moment of unprecedented assaults on truth by those desperate to rewrite America's history.

In this troubling time of banned books and canceled curriculums, it is with great urgency that I stand before you, Mr. Speaker, to celebrate the profound history of our Nation that far too many far-right zealots are fighting to conceal.

This is a special month, defined in equal parts triumph and tragedy, and centered in pride and appreciation because our African-American forebears rose above oppression and helped create the greatest nation the modern world has ever seen.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, only the ashamed and the afraid hide from history. Black Americans never have and never will, for ours is a story of victory over adversity, determination in the face of uncertainty, and the courage of our convictions.

Our story is America's story. Let us never forget, let us never concede, and let us never be silent when we say that Black history is American history.

STOP EBT CARD ABUSE

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)